Construct Meet where it was felt that many lives could have been saved in the Gujarat earthquake if builders had complied with safety rules;

(b) if so, whether Government would make uniform rules to be complied by Government agencies and builders; and

(c) what specific policies are proposed to be formulated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) The 7th Asia Construct Meet is scheduled to be held in India in October 2001. The 6th Asia Construct Meet was held in September 2000 in Malaysia.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above. However, all the State Governments were advised in May 1998 to modify their existing building bye-laws by incorporating earthquake safety measures as per specifications formulated by the Bureau of Indian Standards. The State Governments have since been reminded.

Development of Small and Medium Towns

*234. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

whether Government of Karnataka had sent any proposal for the all round development of 25 small and medium towns;

if so, the amount sought by the Government of Karnataka for this purpose; and

the steps, if any, taken on the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Small & Medium Towns, the State Government has submitted a priority list of 43 towns, out of which 21 towns have already been covered under the scheme. Out of the remaining 22 towns, project

reports have been received for appraisal in respect of 11 towns. Central assistance in repsect of 6 of the ongoing towns, namely Arsikeri, Hunsur, Sira, Bangarpet, Koppal and Muddebihal for which project reports have been received has already been released. For the remaining 5 towns, namely, Gajendragad, Holenarasipur, Kadur, Hassan and Shimoga, the State Government is required to send latest utilisation certificates and physical and financial progress report. These towns will be considered for Central assistance after receipt of requisite information from the State Government.

During the current financial year, a sum of Rs. 63.11 lakhs has been released under the Loan Head in respect of 8 towns and a sum of Rs. 368 lakhs has been released under the grant head in respect of 9 towns. A sum of Rs. 2.80 lakhs has been released under the Central Urban Infrastructure Support Scheme* for 4 towns. Thus, a total Central assistance of Rs. 433.91 lakhs has been released till 1st March, 2001 in the current financial year. The town-wise details of the amount released are given in Statement-I. *(see* below)

The list of 43 towns prioritised by the State Government is at Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of Central assistance released to Karnataka State during 2000-2001

Town	Central Assistance	(Rs. in lakhs)	
		Central Assistanc released 2000-01	
	Under Central Urban Infrastructure Support Scheme*	Loan	Grant
1. Mandya	—	15.00	—
2. Bijapur	—	11.00	—
3. Lakahmeswar	—	2.00	—
4. Savanur	—	5.00	—
5. Gadag-Betageri	—	15.00	—

(Rs. in lakhs)

	Central Assistance			
	Under Central Urban ', Support	Infrastructur e Scheme	Central Assistance released 2000-01 Loan	Grant
6. Malur			6.00	—
7. Kundapura	—		4.11	—
8. Sidlagatta	—		5.00	—
9. Arsikere	—		—	54.58
10. Hunsur	—		—	56.43
11. Sira	—		—	60.00
12. Bangarpet	—		—	21.86
13. Koppal	—		—	60.00
14. Muddebihal	—		—	18.14
15. Manvi	0.50		—	4.00
16. Davanagere	0.80		—	40.00
17. Gulbarga	1.00		—	53.00
18. Navlgund	0.50		—	—
TOTAL:	2.80		63.11	368.00

GRAND TOTAL: RS. 433.91 Lakhs.

Statement-II

Priority List of Towns Submitted by Karnataka and Covered so far

Original Priority No.	Revised	Name	Project Received
1.	1.	Arsekere	Yes
2.	2.	Hunsur	Yes
3.	3.	Gajendragarh	Yes
4.	4.	Sira	Yes
5.	5.	Bangarpet	Yes
6.	6.	Koppal	Yes
7.	7.	Kadur	Yes
8.	8.	Holenarsipur	Yes
9.	9.	Chincholi	Yes
10.	10	Muddebihal	Yes
11.	11.	HarapanaJli	Yes
12.	12.	Chenngiri	Yes
13.	13.	Ron - -	Yes
14.	14.	Hassan	Yes
15.	15.	Shimoga	Yes
16.	16.	Hoskote	Yes
17.	17.	Gundlupet	Yes

Original Priority No.	Revised	Name	Projecl Received
18.	18.	Navalgund	Yes
19.	19.	Manvi	Yes
20.	20.	Davanagere	Yes
21.	21.	Gulbarga	Yes
22.	22.	Athani	Yes
23.	23.	Aland	Yes
24.	24.	Birur	Yes
25.	25.	Devartahain	Yes
26.	26.	Chamarajanagar	Yes
32.	27.	Mundaragi	Yes
33.	28.	Kerur	Yes
35.	29.	Hanagal	Yes
27.	30.	Anekal	No
28.	31.	Indi	No
29.	32.	Khanapur	Yes
30.	33.	Yadgiri	No
31	34.	Chennarayapatna	Yes
34.	35.	Srinivasapura	No
36.	36.	Bhalki	No
37.	37.	Sankeshwara	No
38.	3H.	Konnur	No
39.	39.	Chittaguppa	No
40.	40.	Honnavara	No
41.	41.	Arakalgud	No
42.	42.	Mahalingapur	No
43.	43.	Mulgund	Yes

The towns upto priority 21 have been covered so far.

Scheme under operation for support and care to old persons

*235. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

the major schemes under operation offering support and care to old persons; and

how far these have performed during the first three years of the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) There are two major schemes under which